

OPEN LETTERS.

Pink and yellow pond-lilies.

Pink pond-lilies are very commonly sold in Providence at the card store of Mr. E. C. Davis. Correspondents can always purchase them here in good shape. What I write to record, however, is the presence now, in the same shop, of a bunch of these lilies which are of an exquisite shade of pale yellow. I never saw anything like them before. Both kinds come from Cape Cod. We used to have, according to George Thurber, a locality for the pink ones near Providence; it has long since vanished.

Mr. J. F. Collins has found *Lotus corniculatus* here.—W. W. BAILEY, Providence, R. I.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Two forms of registering apparatus for studying transpiration are described by Messrs. Taylor and Frost.

THE MAY number of the *Student* opens with a sprightly sketch of Julius von Sachs by Mr. Hubert M. Skinner.

THE TWO PAPERS of botanical interest in the June number of the *Forstlich-naturwissenschaftliche Zeitschrift* are "the quality and structure of fir wood," by Dr. R. Hartig and "the influence of elevation on the temperature of the soil," by Dr. E. Ebermayer.

A LUCID SUMMARY of our present knowledge of the nature and origin of fecundation both in the plant and animal world is to be found in the February and April numbers of the *American Naturalist*. It is the text (and illustrations) of a lecture delivered by Mr. H. J. Webber of the Shaw School of Botany before the Alumni Association of St. Louis Medical College.

HERR AMM, under the direction of Prof. Detmer, has conducted a series of experiments on the intramolecular respiration of plants, by which he has demonstrated the direct dependence of this sort of respiration on temperature, and on the stage of growth of the plants. It increases up to the optimum temperature for normal respiration, and also with the age of the seedlings, up to nine days.—See *Ber. d. deutsch. bot. Gesells.*, vol. x, heft 4.

A PRIZE of a thousand marks is offered by the Experiment Station of Middle Java for the best investigation on the causes and prevention of the disease of Sorghum which is characterized by the reddening of the fibrovascular bundles. The limit of time for the investigation will be announced later. Manuscripts have to be written in German, and the usual precautions for withholding the name of the writer from the committee of award are to be observed.

THE WISCONSIN ACADEMY of Sciences, Arts and Letters held its field meeting for 1892 at Ripon, Wis., on June 2—4. The plans of the committee regarding out-door work were completely blocked by the steady